

154A.23 Complaints.

Any person wishing to make a complaint against a licensee or holder of a temporary permit shall file a written statement with the board within twelve months from the date of the action upon which the complaint is based. If the board determines that the complaint alleges facts which, if proven, would be cause for the suspension or revocation of the license of the licensee or the permit of the holder of a temporary permit, it shall make an order fixing a time and place for a hearing and requiring the licensee or holder of a temporary permit complained against to appear and defend. The order shall contain a copy of the complaint, and the order and copy of the complaint shall be served upon the licensee or holder of a temporary permit at least twenty days before the date set for hearing, either personally or as provided in section 154A.21. Continuance or adjournment of a hearing date may be made for good cause. At the hearing the licensee or holder of a temporary permit may be represented by counsel. The licensee or holder of a temporary permit and the board may take depositions in advance of hearing and after service of the complaint, and either may compel the attendance of witnesses by subpoenas issued by the board. The board shall issue such subpoenas at the request of a licensee or holder of a temporary permit. Either party taking depositions shall give at least five days' written notice to the other party of the time and place of such depositions, and the other party may attend, with counsel, if desired, and cross-examine.

If the board determines from the evidence and proofs submitted that the licensee or holder of a temporary permit is guilty of violating any of the provisions of this chapter, or any of the regulations promulgated by the board pursuant to this chapter, the department shall, within thirty days after the hearing, issue an order refusing to issue or renew, or revoking or suspending, as the case may be, the hearing aid dispenser's license or temporary permit. The order shall include the findings of fact and the conclusions of law made by the board and counsel. A copy of the order shall be sent to the licensee or holder of a temporary permit by registered mail. The records of the department shall reflect the action taken by the board on the charges, and the department shall preserve a record of the proceedings in a manner similar to that used by courts of record in this state.

The final order of the board in the proceedings may be appealed to the district court of the county where the licensee or holder of a temporary permit resides, or in which the licensed hearing aid dispenser's principal place of business is located.

The department shall send a copy of the complaint and a copy of the board's final order to the attorney general for purposes of information in the event the licensee or holder of a temporary permit pursues a court appeal and for consideration as to whether the violations are flagrant enough to justify prosecution. The attorney general and all county attorneys shall assist the department in the enforcement of the provisions of this chapter.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §154A.23]

2001 Acts, ch 58, §18; 2002 Acts, ch 1119, §19